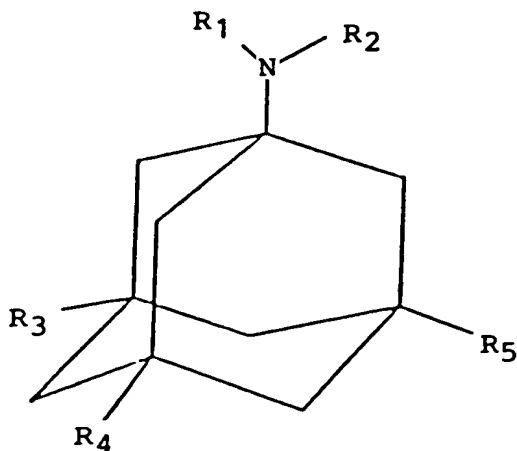


cm We claim:
Z

1

- 10 A method for the prevention or treatment of cerebral ischemia comprising the step of administering, to a patient in need thereof, an effective amount of an adamantane derivative of the general formula



15 wherein ^{P1}R₁ and R₂ are identical or different and represent hydrogen or a straight or branched alkyl group of 1 to 6 C atoms or, in conjunction with N, a heterocyclic group with 5 or 6 ring C atoms;

20 ^{P1} wherein ^{P1}R₃ and R₄ are identical or different, being selected from hydrogen, a straight or branched alkyl group of 1 to 6 C atoms, a cycloalkyl group with 5 or 6 C atoms, and phenyl;

^{P5} wherein ^{P1}R₅ is hydrogen or a straight or branched
14 C₁ - C₆ alkyl group,
^{P5} or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

(2 -)

20 A method according to claim 1, wherein R₁, R₂ and R₅ are hydrogen.

(3 -)

30 A method according to claim 2, wherein R₁, R₂ and R₅ are hydrogen, and R₃ and R₄ are methyl.

(4 -)

40 A method according to claim 2, wherein R₁, R₂ and R₅ are hydrogen, and R₃ and R₄ are ethyl.

(5 -)

50 A method according to Claim 1, wherein R₁, R₂, R₄ and R₅ are hydrogen, and R₃ is ethyl, isopropyl, or cyclohexyl.

(6 -)

60 A method according to claim 1, wherein R₂ and R₅ are hydrogen.

(7 -)

70 A method according to claim 6, wherein R₃ and R₄ are methyl, R₂ and R₅ are hydrogen and R₁ is methyl or ethyl.

(8 -)

80 A method according to claim 1, wherein R₁ and R₂ are hydrogen.

(9 -)

90 A method according to claim 8, wherein R₁ and R₂ are hydrogen, R₃ is ethyl, and R₅ and R₄ are methyl.

(10 -)

100 A method according to claim 1 for the ~~prevention~~ ~~or~~ treatment of Alzheimer's disease.

(11 -)

110 A method of claim 1, wherein the adamantane derivative is administered in an effective cerebral ischemia-alleviating or preventive amount.

⁹
- 12 -

12⁶ A method of claim 11, wherein the adamantane derivative is administered in the form of a composition containing the same together with a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier or diluent.

⁹
- 13 -

13¹ A method of claim 11, wherein the adamantane derivative is administered in an amount effective to prevent degeneration and loss of nerve cells after ischemia.

